

H.A

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/697,267	WATARAI, SEIICHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Long Nguyen	2816	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the after final amendment on 5/13/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,3,10-12,18 and 19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/101,936.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Frederick E. Cooperrider on 5/25/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Specification

In the Pre-Amendment to the specification, line 2, "2002." has been changed to --2002, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,642,748.--

In The Claims

Claim 18, line 9, "from the outputs" has been changed to --from outputs--.

Reasons For The Above Changes

The above changes have been made so that the specification and claim 18 are clear.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. Claims 2, 3, 10-12, 18 and 19 are allowed.

Claims 2 and 18 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a circuit which includes a data input means/unit, a data latch means/unit, a reset means/unit, a latch enhancement means/unit and a clock synchronization means/unit with the recited connections and operation set forth therein. In particularly, the prior art of record fails to disclose the circuit

Art Unit: 2816

including, in combination with other limitations, the clock synchronization means for blocking a feedthrough current that flows through the reset means/unit, the data latch means/unit, and the latch enhancement means/unit when the first and second clock signals are in a state of the first logic level.

Claims 10-12 are allowed because they depend on claim 2.

Claim 3 and 19 are allowed because the prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a circuit which includes a data input means/unit, a data latch means/unit, a reset means/unit, and a latch enhancement means/unit with the recited connections and operation set forth therein. In particular, the prior art of record fails to disclose the circuit including, in combination with other limitations, the latch enhancement means/unit for enhancing a latch operation of the data latch means/unit in response to a first logic level of a second clock signal that is delayed in a phrase from the first clock signal, and the data latch means/unit including an activating means/unit for blocking a feedthrough current that flows through the reset means, the data latch means, and the latch enhancement means when the first clock signal is in a state of said second logic level and the second clock signal is in a state of the first logic level.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directly to Examiner Long Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1753. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 8:00am to 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan, can be reached at (571) 272-1740. The fax number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

May 25, 2005


LONG NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER